

Mr. Alan Hallum, Chief  
Water Protection Branch  
Environmental Protection Division  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
4220 International Parkway, Suite 101  
Atlanta, Georgia 30354

Dear Mr. Hallum:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the revisions to Chapters 391-3-6-.03, "Water Use Classifications and Water Quality Standards", and 391-3-6-.06, "Waste Treatment and Permit Requirements", of the Georgia Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control. These revisions were duly promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources and became effective for purposes of State law on November 15, 2001.

These revisions were submitted for EPA review by letter dated February 28, 2002. The State's request for review included certification by the State Attorney General that the revisions were duly adopted pursuant to State law.

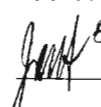
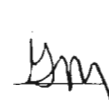
In accordance with Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR Part 131, I am hereby approving these revisions to the State water quality standards. These revisions included the updating of toxics criteria, revising language related to reasonable potential, addition of a footnote reference and addition of a reference to EPA's Water Effect Ratio guidance. With respect to the revised language for reasonable potential, EPA interprets the phrase "permit issuance" to mean revocation and reissuance or modification consistent with the Department's reasonable potential procedures. Also, the Department should submit a revised reasonable potential procedures document to EPA based on the revisions made within Chapter 391-3-6-.06.

These revisions to the State's water quality standards represent your Department's continuing efforts to protect and enhance the quality of Georgia's waters. You and your staff are to be congratulated on your efforts and accomplishments reflected in the adopted water quality standards.

Sincerely,

Beverly H. Banister, Director  
Water Management Division

coordination

 hansel \_\_\_\_\_ point-kelly \_\_\_\_\_ bartlett <sup>CH 7/29</sup> higgason  mitchell

cc: hansel  
wqs reading file  
ga wqs file